

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 08933 272307Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 EB-07 /085 W
-----281740Z 097947 /40

R 271837Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4490
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION NATO
USDOCOSOUTH
USCINCEUR
USDOCOALSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 08933

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR. PLOS. TU. GR. UK, EC
SUBJECT: THE EC AND THE AEGEAN DISPUTE
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PAGE 02 LONDON 08933 272307Z

REF: STATE 65276

1. AS ADDRESSEES ARE AWARE, IN RECENT WEEKS THE EC HAS
BEQUN STUDY OF GREEK-TURKISH DISPUTE IN THE AEGEAN AND
THE IMPACT OF THIS DISPUTE ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. THE
BRITISH PRESIDENCY WILL CIRCULATE A FACTUAL ANALYSIS OF
THE AEGEAN SITUATION WHICH WILL PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR THE

NEXT MEDITERRANEAN EXPERTS' DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT JUNE 10. THE BRITISH PAPER WILL SIMPLY INDICATE THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS, TREATIES AND ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ARE RELEVANT IN THIS DISPUTE AND SUMMARIZE THE CURRENT GREEK AND TURKISH POSITIONS ON THE MATTER. THERE WILL BE NO ATTEMPT TO REACH CONCLUSIONS OR MAKE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS.

2. ALTHOUGH WASHINGTON ASKED FOR COMMUNITY VIEWS IN LATE MARCH (REFTEL) ON HOW THE AEGEAN DISPUTE MIGHT BE AMELIORATED AND WHAT ROLE THE NINE MIGHT PLAY, IT IS OUR DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT SUCH AN EC REACTION WILL BE A LONG TIME COMING AND NEARLY EMPTY WHEN IT ARRIVES. ALL WILL REMEMBER HOW LONG IT TOOK THE NINE TO REACH ANYTHING CLOSE TO A CONSENSUS ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE ITSELF. IN MANY RESPECTS, THE AEGEAN IS AN EVEN MORE DIFFICULT MATTER FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE EC. THIS IS BECAUSE THE ISSUES OF CONTINENTAL SHELF AND TERRITORIAL WATERS WHICH ARE SO CENTRAL IN THE GREECE-TURKEY DISPUTE ARE ALSO SUBJECTS OF DISAGREEMENT BOTH BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE NINE WITH ONE ANOTHER AND WITH OUTSIDE COUNTRIES. THE BRITISH AND THE FRENCH NOW HAVE SUCH A DISPUTE UNDER LITIGATION AND WE UNDERSTAND FROM THE FCO THERE IS A SIMILAR DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FRG AND GDR. THUS, IT WILL BE EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT FOR THE EC TO REACH A COMMON APPROACH TO THE AEGEAN WHICH WILL NOT HAVE AWKWARD OR UNACCEPTABLY COMPROMISING IMPLICATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL INTERESTS OF CERTAIN OF ITS MEMBERS.

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PAGE 03 LONDON 08933 272307Z

3. THIS IS NOT TO SUGGEST THAT WE SHOULD NOT CONTINUE TO ASK THE EC TO CONSIDER WAYS THE LEVEL OF TENSION MIGHT BE REDUCED IN THE AEGEAN. NOR SHOULD WE IGNORE A POSSIBLE ROLE FOR THE NINE AT SOME POINT IN GENERALLY COUNSELING MODERATION ON THE PART OF THE GREEKS AND TURKS. BUT WE BELIEVE THAT ANY MORE SPECIFIC ROLE FOR THE COMMUNITY ON THIS ISSUE IS PROBABLY NOT IN THE CARDS ANY TIME SOON.

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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